

Application No.: 10/812,433

Docket No.: JCLA12461

REMARKSPresent Status of the Application

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 2 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), as being anticipated by Swanson et al. (U.S. 6,262,445). The Office Action indicated that claims 3-18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant appreciates this indication of allowable subject matter. Hence, Applicants have amended claim 1 and 4-9 by introducing the allowable subject matters claimed in claim 3 into claim 1. Applicants have further rewritten claim 10 and 17 into independent form which include all of the limitations of the base claim, claim 1. Alco, Applicants have added claims 20-21 for further defining the scope of claims 10 and 19. No new matters are introduced into the specification by the amendment made herein. After entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 1-2 and 4-21 are in the condition for allowance and reconsideration of those claims is respectfully requested.

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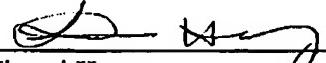
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 1-2 and 4-21 are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,
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